This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method for assessing risk of Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) in a patient which comprises measuring levels of both Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) and C-reactive protein (CRP) or Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL) in the patient, analyzing a risk associated with the level of CRP or LDL and a risk associated with the level of Lp-PLA2, and using the combined risks to assess the risk of CVD in the patient.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is Coronary Heart Disease (CHD).

Claim 3 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 1 which further comprises measuring levels of low density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL) and analyzing the respective wherein levels of all three markers, LDL, CRP and Lp-PLA2 are analyzed, in combination, so as to assess the risk of CVD in the patient

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the measuring of CRP or LDL and Lp-PLA2 levels are done simultaneously.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the measuring of CRP or LDL and Lp-PLA2 are done sequentially.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein levels of CRP and LP-PLA2 are analyzed and the respective levels of CRP and Lp-PLA2 are based on dividing a patient population dataset into high and low levels of each CRP and Lp-PLA2 and a patient having both high CRP and high Lp-PLA2 levels is indicative of heightened risk of CVD.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein levels of CRP and LP-PLA2 are analyzed and the respective levels of CRP and Lp-PLA2 are based on dividing a patient population dataset into high, medium and low levels of each CRP and Lp-PLA2 and a patient having both high CRP and high Lp-PLA2 levels is indicative of heightened risk of CVD.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The method of claim 3 wherein

(a) the respective levels of CRP and Lp-PLA2 are based on dividing a patient population dataset into high and low levels of each CRP and Lp-PLA2;

(b) the respective level of LDL is based on dividing the patient population dataset into high and low levels of LDL; and

(c) a patient having low LDL levels but having both high CRP and high Lp-PLA2 levels is indicative of heightened risk of CVD for the patient.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): The method of claim 3 wherein

(a) the respective levels of CRP and Lp-PLA2 are based on dividing a patient population dataset into high, medium and low levels of each CRP and Lp-PLA2;

(b) the respective level of LDL is based on dividing the patient population dataset into high and low levels of LDL; and

(c) a patient having low LDL levels but having both high CRP and high Lp-PLA2 levels is indicative of heightened risk of CVD for the patient.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising determining the patients risk of CVD using the Adult Treatment Panel III (ATP III) guidelines.

Claim 11 (original): The method claim 1 wherein the Lp-PLA2 levels are determined by measuring either Lp-PLA2 mass or Lp-PLA2 activity.

Claims 12-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1 wherein levels of LDL and LP-PLA2 are analyzed and the levels of Lp-PLA2 are based on dividing a patient population dataset into high, medium and low levels of Lp-PLA2 and a patient having both high Lp-PLA2 levels and low to normal LDL is indicative of heightened risk of CVD.

Claim 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The method claim 21 wherein the patient is both diabetic and hypertensive.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The method of claim 21 wherein the patient is diabetic, hypertensive and smokes.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1 wherein the patient suffers from a metabolic disorder.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): The method of claim 20 where in the metabolic disorder is selected from the group consisting of, obesity, overweight, diabetes, insulin resistance, anorexia, and cachexia.

Claim 22-23 (canceled)

Claims 24 (withdrawn): A method for treating a subject to reduce the risk of a Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD), comprising: selecting and administering to a subject who has above-normal levels of both C-reactive protein (CRP) and Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) or both above-normal levels of Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) and low to normal levels of Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL), a therapeutic molecule selected from the group consisting of statins, Lp-PLA2 inhibitors or cholesterol reuptake inhibitors in an amount effective to lower the risk of the subject developing a future CVD.

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The method of claim 24 wherein the Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is Coronary Heart Disease (CHD).

Claims 26-29 (canceled)

Claim 30 (withdrawn): A kit for diagnosing a patient's susceptibility to Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) comprising both a suitable assay for measuring Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) levels and a suitable assay for measuring C-reactive protein (CRP) levels or Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL) levels wherein the levels of both CRP and Lp-PLA2 or both LDL and Lp-PLA2 are determined.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The kit of claim 30 wherein the Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is Coronary Heart Disease (CHD).

Claim 32 (withdrawn): The kit of claim 30 wherein the suitable assay for measuring Lp-PLA2 levels measures either Lp-PLA2 mass or Lp-PLA2 activity assay.

Claims 33-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is selected from the group comprising Coronary Heart Disease (CHD), stroke, myocardial infarction, coronary revascularization and congestive heart failure.

Claim 37 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1 wherein Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is stroke.

Claim 38 (withdrawn): The method of claim 1 wherein Coronary Vascular Disease (CVD) is myocardial infarction.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein measuring levels of both Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) and C-reactive protein (CRP) or Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL) in the patient comprises measuring levels of both Lipoprotein Associated Phospholipase A2 (Lp-PLA2) and C-reactive protein (CRP) or Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL) in a sample from said patient.